

storage groove **64a** toward the distal portions, and the distal portions are formed into a flat surface extending parallel to the vertical direction. As shown in **FIG. 10**, the inclination of a lower surface **66a** of the protrusion **66**, which is a side surface extending from the proximal portion to the distal portion, exposing itself to the bottom side of the cylinder storage groove **64a** is less steep than an upper surface **66b**. The protrusions **66** are disposed near the center of the main body **31** in the direction of the shorter side so as to oppose each other, and extend in the direction of the length of the cylinder storage groove **64a** respectively.

[0083] As shown in **FIG. 8** and **FIG. 9**, the cylinder storage groove **64b** of the holding part **62** is larger than the cylinder storage groove **64a** in width and depth, and is formed with three protrusions **65** at the bottom thereof. Each pair of protrusions **66** are formed near an upper opening **62b** of the holding part **62** on the side walls of the cylinder storage groove **64b** along the length of the cylinder storage groove **64b** at opposed positions.

[0084] The cylinder storage groove **64c** of the holding part **63** is larger than the cylinder storage groove **64b** in width and depth, and three protrusions **65** are provided at the bottom thereof. The pairs of protrusions **66** are formed near an upper opening **63b** of the holding part **63** on the side walls of the cylinder storage groove **64c** along the length of the cylinder storage groove **64c** at opposed positions.

[0085] The operation of the syringe **2** will be now described.

[0086] The syringe **2** is firstly stored in the holding part **61** of the syringe holder **60**. When the syringe **2** is pushed into the holding part **61** from the upper opening **61b** side so that the flange **12a** of the cylinder **6** is stored in the flange storage groove **36a**, the cylinder **6** is inserted therein so as to widen the distance between the protrusions **66**, and is set in the cylinder storage groove **64a**. After the cylinder **6** has passed, the protrusions **66** return to their original position.

[0087] In the stored state, the syringe **2** is supported mainly by the protrusions **65** at the bottom of the cylinder storage groove **64a**. The cylinder storage groove **64a** is larger than the syringe **2** so as to keep an allowance.

[0088] Likewise, the syringe **3** is stored in the holding part **62**, and the syringe **4** is stored in the holding part **63**. In this state, the respective syringes **3** and **4** are mainly supported by the protrusions **65** of the respective cylinder storage grooves **64b** and **64c**.

[0089] The syringe holder **60** in which the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** are stored is placed in the sterilized package, and is subjected to sterilizing treatment together with the balloon catheter **40** and the like. At this time, since there are sufficient allowances between the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** and the holding parts **61**, **62** and **63**, respectively, and the contact areas between the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** and the holding parts **61**, **62** and **63** are kept to minimum areas owing to the protrusions **65**, **66**, gas can easily run through. Furthermore, since the flange storage grooves **36a**, **36b** and **36c** and the plunger storage grooves **37a**, **37b** and **37c** are formed into inclined surfaces or surfaces having a radius of curvature different from the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** so as to form the clearances with respect to the syringes **2**, **3** and **4**, gas can easily run through. Therefore, the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** are reliably sterilized by sterilizing gas.

[0090] In this embodiment, since the holding parts **61**, **62** and **63** are formed so as to assure sufficient allowances with respect to the syringes **2**, **3** and **4**, the clearances between the holding portions **61**, **62**, **63** and the syringes **2**, **3**, **4** are secured, whereby the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** can be reliably sterilized. In particular, since the contact areas with respect to the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** are reduced by means of the protrusions **65** and **66**, sterilization of the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** can be reliably performed.

[0091] Also, since the allowances are formed with respect to the syringes **2**, **3** and **4**, and the distal ends of the respective syringes **2**, **3** and **4** are exposed, the syringes **2**, **3** and **4** can easily be taken out.

[0092] Referring to the drawings, a third embodiment of the invention is now described. The same components as the above-described embodiments are represented by the same reference numerals. Description overlapped with the above-described embodiments will be omitted.

[0093] This embodiment relates to a modification of the holding part.

[0094] As shown in **FIG. 11**, holding parts **71**, **72** and **73** of a syringe holder **70** respectively have cylinder storage grooves **74a**, **74b** and **74c** that are substantially oval in cross-section.

[0095] The cylinder storage groove **74a** is configured in such a manner that the portion near an upper opening **71b** is protruded so as to be close to each other, so that protrusions **75a** are formed, and the bottom side is formed as an oval shape. The number of contact portions between an inner wall of the cylinder storage groove **74a** and the cylinder **6** are three positions at maximum, including one on the bottom side and two on the side of the protrusions **75a**. Each of them is subjected to linear contact. Other portions of the syringe **2** are not in contact with the holding part **71** and clearances are formed.

[0096] The cylinder storage groove **74b** of the holding part **72** is larger than the cylinder storage groove **74a**, is provided with protrusions **75b** near an upper opening **72b**, and is oval shaped on the bottom side. The cylinder storage groove **74c** of the holding part **73** is larger than the cylinder storage groove **74b**, is provided with protrusions **75c** near an upper opening **73b**, and is oval shaped on the bottom side.

[0097] Cylinder storage grooves **81**, **82** and **83** as shown in **FIG. 12** may be provided.

[0098] The cylinder storage groove **81** is substantially formed into a cross-shape with reference to an upper opening **81b**. The cylinder **6** is mainly stored in a center portion of the cylinder storage groove **81**, and clearances are defined with respect to the cylinder **6** by extended portions **81a** extending in four directions from the center portion. The respective corners which correspond to the proximal ends of the extended portions **81a** come into linear contact with the cylinder **6** at four positions at the maximum.

[0099] The cylinder storage groove **82** is substantially formed into a T-shape with reference to an upper opening **82b**. The width of the upper opening **82b** is smaller than the cylinder **22**. The bottom side is increased in width, and this widened portion **82a** defines clearances with respect to the cylinder **22**. The cylinder storage groove **82** is configured to come into linear contact with the cylinder **22** at three